

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



**ASSOCIATION of
GOVERNMENTS**

Main Office

818 West Seventh Street

12th Floor

Los Angeles, California

90017-3435

t (213) 236-1800

f (213) 236-1825

www.scag.ca.gov

Officers: President: Toni Young, Port Hueneme •
First Vice President: Yvonne Burke, Los Angeles
County • Second Vice President: Gary Ovitt, San
Bernardino County • Immediate Past President:
Ron Roberts, Temecula

Imperial County: Victor Carrillo, Imperial
County • Jon Edney, El Centro

Los Angeles County: Yvonne Burke, Los Angeles
County • Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles County •
Jim Aldinger, Manhattan Beach • Harry Baldwin,
San Gabriel • Paul Bowlen, Cerritos • Tony
Cardenas, Los Angeles • Stan Carroll, La Habra
Heights • Margaret Clark, Rosemead • Gene
Daniels, Paramount • Mike Dispenza, Palmdale
• Judy Dunlap, Inglewood • Rae Gabelich, Long
Beach • David Gafin, Downey • Eric Garcetti, Los
Angeles • Wendy Greuel, Los Angeles • Frank
Gurulé, Cudahy • James Hahn, Los Angeles •
Janice Hahn, Los Angeles • Isadore Hall,
Compton • Keith W. Hanks, Azusa • Tom
LaBonge, Los Angeles • Paula Lantz, Pomona •
Martin Ludlow, Los Angeles • Cindy
Miscikowski, Los Angeles • Paul Nowatka,
Torrance • Pam O'Connor, Santa Monica • Alex
Padilla, Los Angeles • Bernard Parks, Los
Angeles • Jan Perry, Los Angeles • Ed Reyes, Los
Angeles • Greig Smith, Los Angeles • Tom Sykes,
Walnut • Paul Talbot, Alhambra • Sidney Tyler,
Pasadena • Tonia Reyes Uranga, Long Beach •
Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles • Dennis
Washburn, Calabasas • Jack Weiss, Los Angeles
• Bob Yousefian, Glendale • Dennis Zine, Los
Angeles

Orange County: Chris Norby, Orange County •
Christine Barnes, La Palma • John Beauman,
Brea • Lou Bone, Tustin • Art Brown, Buena Park
• Richard Chavez, Anaheim • Debbie Cook,
Huntington Beach • Cathryn DeYoung, Laguna
Niguel • Richard Dixon, Lake Forest • Marilyn
Poe, Los Alamitos • Tod Ridgeway, Newport
Beach

Riverside County: Jeff Stone, Riverside County •
Thomas Buckley, Lake Elsinore • Bonnie
Flickinger, Moreno Valley • Ron Loveridge,
Riverside • Greg Pettis, Cathedral City • Ron
Roberts, Temecula

San Bernardino County: Gary Ovitt, San
Bernardino County • Lawrence Dale, Barstow •
Paul Eaton, Montclair • Lee Ann Garcia, Grand
Terrace • Tim Jasper, Town of Apple Valley • Larry
McCallon, Highland • Deborah Robertson,
Rialto • Alan Wapner, Ontario

Ventura County: Judy Mikels, Ventura County •
Glen Becerra, Simi Valley • Carl Morehouse, San
Buenaventura • Toni Young, Port Hueneme

Orange County Transportation Authority: Lou
Correa, County of Orange

Riverside County Transportation Commission:
Robin Lowe, Hemet

Ventura County Transportation Commission:
Keith Millhouse, Moorpark

559-5/24/05

MEETING AGENDA OF THE

WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

**Thursday, January 12, 2006
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location:

SCAG Offices

818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor

San Bernardino A&B Conference Rooms

Los Angeles, CA 90017

213.236.1800

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Dan Griset at 213.236.1895 or griset@scag.ca.gov.

SCAG, in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. If you require such assistance, please contact SCAG at (213) 236-1868 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to enable SCAG to make reasonable arrangements. To request documents related to this document in an alternative format, please contact (213) 236-1868.

DOC #117514v1

AGENDA

WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

Page #

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Introduction of new Task Force member: Stan Carroll, Joseph Serrano, Todd Campbell and Rick Ramirez.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Members of the public desiring to speak on an agenda item or another item, but within the purview of this Task Force, must notify staff to the Task Force prior to the meeting. At the discretion of the Chair public comments may be limited to three minutes.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the minutes of the November 10, 2005 meeting. (Minutes will be available at the meeting and on the Task Force website: <http://www.scag.ca.gov/wptf/index.htm>)

4.0 PRESENTATION ITEM FOR THE TASK FORCE

4.1 The Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) Blueprint for California Water: "No Time to Waste" 3

Greg Wilkinson, an attorney with Best, Best & Krieger and chair of the ACWA Committee responsible for drafting the Blueprint, will brief the Task Force on the recommendations made in this statewide effort to guide policy and action throughout California and beyond. The Task Force will consider recommending SCAG support for the Blueprint.

4.2 South Delta Improvements Program 6

Randall Neudeck, Program Manager for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, along with Fran Spivy-Weber, representing the Mono Lake Committee, will discuss the South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP). This Program is the first major implementation package of statewide significance within the CALFED program, the state and federal collaboration aimed at addressing the complex issues of the water quality and supply in the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The panelists view the Program from different perspectives. The Task Force will consider a staff recommendation that SCAG support the Program.

4.3 Status of Water Bond Proposals

9

Kathy Cole, Legislative Representative for Metropolitan Water District in Sacramento, will brief the Task Force on the water bond proposals currently circulating in Sacramento. This is an information item.

4.4 The AB 2717 Landscape Task Force Report and Water Use Efficiency Policy and Programs in Orange County

10

Larry McKenney, Manager of Orange County's Watershed and Coastal Resources Division and Task Force member, and Joe Berg, Water Use Efficiency Program Manager for the Municipal Water District of Orange County, will report on the recently completed Report to the Governor and Legislature by the AB2717 Landscape Task Force. The Report contains Findings, Recommendations and Actions intended to improve landscape water use efficiencies statewide. The panelists will describe the results achieved in Orange County with water use efficiency projects.

4.5 Downey's Comprehensive Strategy for Managing Stormwater Runoff

12

Gerry Greene, Water Resources Control Specialist with the City of Downey and Task Force member, will describe Downey's comprehensive strategy for managing stormwater runoff in various kinds of development projects in their city.

5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

6.0 STAFF REPORT

7.0 TASK FORCE INFORMATION SHARING

8.0 COMMENT PERIOD

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next Task Force meeting will be held on March 9, 2006.

**Lunch is sponsored by
CALLEGUAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

TO: ***Members of the Water Policy Task Force***

FROM: ***Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, 213.236.1895, griset@scag.ca.gov***

SUBJECT: ***The Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) Blueprint for California Water: "No Time to Waste"***

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Task Force recommends that the Energy and Environment Committee endorse for Regional Council adoption a resolution of support for the ACWA Blueprint for California Water.

BACKGROUND:

The policy committees and Board of ACWA have developed recommendations for highlighting the issues that must be addressed in order to better secure California's water future. These recommendations were developed by a committee chaired by Greg Wilkinson, an attorney with Best, Best & Krieger, who will introduce the ACWA Blueprint to the Task Force. The Blueprint, entitled "No Time to Waste" contains the following twelve recommendations:

- Improve the existing Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta water conveyance system to increase flexibility and enhance water supply, water quality, levee stability and environmental protection in the near term.
- Evaluate long-term threats to the Delta levee and conveyance system and pursue actions to reduce risks to the state's water supply and the environment.
- Ensure delivery of adequate Colorado River supplies for Southern California and defend California's rights on the Colorado River.
- Implement and fund the Sacramento Valley Water Management Program.
- Develop additional groundwater and surface water storage, including proposed surface storage projects now under study if they are determined to be feasible.
- Support and fund local efforts to expand recycled water use and implement best management practices for urban and agricultural water use efficiency.
- Improve the quality of California's drinking water supplies to safeguard public health and enhance water quality for agriculture and the environment.
- Work with local agencies to overcome constraints to developing seawater and brackish groundwater desalination.

- Modernize the federal Endangered Species Act and other laws and regulations to allow water infrastructure projects, water supply and water quality activities to proceed while protecting species and habitats.
- Expedite the approval process for voluntary water transfers.
- Clarify and expand the state's role in flood control and promote multi-benefit flood control projects.
- Support integrated regional water management plans.

An Agenda attachment presents an ACWA Side-by-Side comparison of various action plans proposed by ACWA, the Public Policy Institute of California, the Planning and Conservation League, the Pacific Institute and the Department of Water Resources 2005 California Water Plan (already considered by the Task Force). While this comparison has limitations, it provides some summary information of value.

RESOLUTION No. 06-472-1

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
SUPPORTING “NO TIME TO WASTE”:
A BLUEPRINT FOR CALIFORNIA WATER**

WHEREAS, after an extended stakeholder process among many public water agencies, a statewide task force has developed and the ACWA Board has approved, a comprehensive policy document, *No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California Water*; and

WHEREAS, the *Blueprint* frames the discussion and decision-making required to provide all Californians with adequate supplies of high quality water, a healthy environment and a strong economy for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, the time is now for the water community and other public interests to propose a policy statement and action plan for meeting California’s future water needs; and

WHEREAS, the *Blueprint* makes a number of common sense recommendations that will, when implemented, guarantee clean and safe drinking water, irrigation for agriculture, and protection for California’s natural resources and important ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the *Blueprint* addresses key factors that could change both the availability of California’s water supply and the most effective strategies for meeting water needs, including risks to groundwater quality, climate change, and new drinking water issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments hereby supports *No Time to Waste: A Blueprint for California Water*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all stakeholders in California’s water system are encouraged to support and implement the provisions of the *Blueprint*.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at a regular meeting on this 2nd day of March, 2006.

TONI YOUNG
President, SCAG
Councilmember, City of Port Hueneme

Karen Tachiki
Chief Legal Counsel, SCAG

Mark Pisano
Executive Director, SCAG

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

TO: ***Members of the Water Policy Task Force***

FROM: ***Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, 213.236.1895, griset@scag.ca.gov***

SUBJECT: ***South Delta Improvements Program***

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Task Force recommends that the Energy and Environment Committee endorse for Regional Council adoption a resolution of support for the South Delta Improvements Program, an implementation effort specified in the 2000 CalFed Record of Decision.

BACKGROUND:

The South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP) is a series of interrelated actions to manage water levels and water quality, protect fish and provide increased flexibility for operations of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP). The sponsors of the Program are the United States Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), working as lead Federal and State agencies, respectively, for SDIP.

The specific actions of the Program include the following:

- Replace a seasonal rock gate installed to protect fish with a permanent operable gate at the Head of Old River,
- Replace three seasonal rock gates with permanent operable flow gates on Middle River, Grantline Canal and Old River (near the city of Tracy),
- Improve flow conditions in south Delta channels with limited dredging in Middle River, Old River and West Canal,
- Extend 24 existing local agricultural diversions in the south Delta to deeper water to limit the necessity for more frequent gate operations, and
- Increase the permitted diversion capacity at the SWP Clifton Court Forebay to allow more operational flexibility to increase diversion rates when the increase will not harm the Delta's fisheries or local agricultural users.

The SDIP has been proposed in response to three important water management needs:

- (1) The operations of the SWP and CVP export facilities in the south Delta can change flow patterns in the local channels. This can cause migrating San Joaquin River fall- /late fall-run Chinook salmon, a candidate for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act, to move into the south Delta, primarily through Old River where fish mortality increases due to predators and higher levels of exposure to export facilities and agricultural diversions. Keeping fall- and late fall-run

Chinook salmon in the main channel of the San Joaquin River until they reach the central Delta may increase their survival.

- (2) Local South Delta water users downstream of the head of Old River are affected by water quality and water levels at each intake location. These conditions are influenced by many factors, one of which is diversions in the south Delta by the SWP and CVP.
- (3) There are unmet water supply needs, with respect to quantity and reliability, south of the Delta for agriculture, municipal and industrial, and environmental uses.

Meeting these objectives by implementing the SDIP is intended to provide increased operational flexibility and the ability to respond to real-time fish conditions while improving water supply reliability.

The four permanent, operable gates proposed through SDIP will replace the current, cumbersome, seasonable rock gates that have been installed by the DWR. The operable gates provide operational flexibility that the seasonable rock gates do not have. This flexibility will allow the gates to be operated on a “real-time” basis in response to unanticipated, changing conditions in the south Delta region.

The flow control gates would be operated from April through November on an as-needed basis to protect water levels and water quality for local agricultural diversions. The gate at the Head of Old River would normally be closed from mid-April through mid-May during the outmigration period for San Joaquin River salmon smelts and from September through October, as needed, to improve dissolved oxygen content on the stretch of the San Joaquin River from Old River to the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel for immigrating adult salmon during the pre-spawning period. Operation of the gates outside of these “pre-set” periods would only be on an as-needed basis subject to prior approval by State and federal fish and wildlife agencies.

DWR and BoR plan to implement the proposed actions under SDIP in two separate and distinct stages. The Final EIR/S for SDIP has identified a preferred alternative for gate construction and operation, channel dredging and agricultural diversion relocation (Stage 1 actions). The Final EIR/S also includes a range of alternatives for increasing the maximum diversion limit for Clifton Court Forebay up to 8500 cubic feet per second (Stage 2 action) but will not identify a preferred alternative. After the Stage 1 decision documents are completed (Record of Decision and Notice of Determination), various public workshops and forums will be held around the State to gather further public input before identifying a preferred alternative for increasing the diversion limit to 8500 cfs. Once the preferred 8500 alternative has been identified, it will be submitted to the public for further review/comment and a final decision will be made by DWR and BoR in a subsequent ROD/NOD. The preferred 8500 alternative would be implemented after the completion of construction of the Stage 1 actions.

If approved, completion of channel dredging and diversion extensions is expected by Fall 2008 and completion of the four permanent gates is scheduled for Spring 2009 (Stage 1 actions). Implementation of the preferred operational alternative for 8500 cfs would happen after the construction of the Stage 1 actions. The cost for these actions has been estimated at about \$90 million. The source of funds are varied, ranging from voter-approved Propositions 204 (approved in 1995), 13 (approved in 2000), 50 (approved in 2002), the 1992 Central Valley Project Improvement Act, CVP, SWP and local funds.

If the four gate configuration is implemented, the permanent gates on Middle River, Old River near Tracy and Grantline Canal are intended to improve circulation in local south Delta channels. An improvement in circulation is expected to benefit water quality and dissolved oxygen levels beyond the current conditions with the existing rock gates. Also, the gate at the Head of Old River would impede fish from migrating from the San Joaquin River into the interior south Delta, where they could be exposed to further loss from the effects of local agricultural diversions and the operation of CVP and SWP export facilities. DWR and BoR have proposed

specific protective measures to be used during times when permanent south Delta gates are constructed and dredging/diversion relocations are conducted to ensure no harm is caused to Delta fisheries.

Detailed hydrodynamic and water quality studies of SDIP have concluded that there will not be any significant adverse effects to Bay-Delta water quality from SDIP implementation. In addition, DWR and BoR will work to identify and implement additional actions that may be needed to provide for the continuous improvement in water quality called for in the CALFED Program.

The August 28, 2000 CALFED Record of Decision specified that: (1) permanent gate installation, (2) selective channel dredging and, (3) agricultural diversion modifications, be carried out to improve conditions for local agricultural diverters. In addition, maximum diversion capability at SWP's Clifton Court Forebay (CCF) was to be increased to 8500 cfs and subsequently 10,300 cfs provided that new fish screens were installed at CCF. After two years of study, however, the cost of new fish screens at CCF was estimated to be \$1 to 2 billion dollars. Because of this high cost, CALFED decided that SDIP should only propose an 8500 cfs increase, with the 10,300 cfs increase and new CCF fish screens requiring further detailed studies.

A summary of the Program is available on the web: http://sdip.water.ca.gov/documents/SDIP_brochure.pdf

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

TO: *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

FROM: *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, 213.236.1895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

SUBJECT: *Status of Water Bond Proposals*

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Consider for future policy action.

BACKGROUND:

Several water bond proposals have emerged in recent months. Most recently the Governor has proposed a \$25 billion bond issue for funding infrastructure investments, including water, in California. Senator Perata has proposed a \$10 billion bond measure that also includes water projects. The consultant group that has developed earlier water bond measures also has a water bond in for the early required Attorney General review.

Kathy Cole, Legislative Representative for Metropolitan Water District, will brief the Task Force via conference call on the current status of these various measures. It is anticipated that the Legislature will consider these various proposals and possibly enact legislation that will bring a measure to the ballot as early as June. If the required 2/3 legislative passage for a measure of this kind is not achieved, some of these proposals are expected to use the public initiative process for electoral consideration.

At its next meeting, once these bond proposals have been further defined, the Task Force will have an opportunity to recommend a SCAG position on these measures.

Attached to the Agenda is a Summary of the Governor's 2006 State of the State proposal that includes provisions for water resources management.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

TO: ***Members of the Water Policy Task Force***

FROM: ***Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, 213.236.1895, griset@scag.ca.gov***

SUBJECT: ***The AB 2717 Landscape Task Force Report and Water Use Efficiency Policy and Programs in Orange County***

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Consider for future policy action.

BACKGROUND:

Urban landscapes are an important feature in the quality of life in California communities. Yet with these attractive amenities there are significant supporting water requirements. Approximately a third of California's urban water consumption is devoted to outside landscaping, the single largest use of water in urban areas. Statewide, this use consumes almost 3 million acre-feet of our water resources.

With the pressures of population and employment growth slated for the SCAG region in the coming years, public agencies are faced with finding ways to conserve some of these water resources. These kinds of efforts are closely linked with maintaining the quality of life in our communities and encouraging those capacities that bring vitality and confidence to the region's economic performance.

For these reasons improving water use efficiency are important public policy issues affecting water suppliers, water users and the environment through:

- Reduced average daily water demand
- Reduced seasonal peak water demand
- Reduced water extractions
- Reduced runoff, overspray and soil erosion, resulting in improved water quality and less degradation of roads and other structures
- Reduced green waste production
- Avoided cost of energy
- Avoided cost of water treatment
- Avoided cost of wastewater treatment

AB 2717 called for the creation of a Task Force by the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) with a requirement that the Task Force provide the Governor and Legislature with Findings, Recommendations and Actions by December 31, 2005. The Task Force met the deadline successfully and has submitted its Report.

The Task Force members identified a top twelve recommendations (of the 43 recommendations totally) for improved water use efficiency include:

1. Adopt water conserving rate structures as defined by the Task Force

2. Reduce the Evapotranspiration (ET) Adjustment Factor (the landscape water budget” in the Model Ordinance and review the ET Adjustment Factor every ten years for possible further reduction.
3. Enforce and monitor compliance with local ordinances and the Model Ordinance.
4. Require dedicated landscape meters.
5. Promote the use of recycled water in urban landscapes.
6. Require that local ordinances be at least as effective as the Model Ordinance.
7. Increase the public’s awareness of the importance of landscape water use efficiency and inspire them to action.
8. Require Smart Controllers.
9. Adopt and enforce statewide prohibitions on overspray and runoff.
10. Provide training and certification opportunities to landscape and irrigation professionals.
11. Support upgrading the California Irrigation Management Information System Program.
12. Adopt performance standards for irrigation equipment.

The Task Force estimated that a full implementation of these recommendations can bring substantial water savings to California, ranging between 600,000 and 1,000,000 acre-feet. This would provide water to up to two million households at an estimated average cost of \$250 to \$500 per acre-foot.

A summary of the Final Report by the Task Force is available on the web:

http://www.cuwcc.org/landscape_task_force/AB2717_LTF_Exec_Summary_FINAL.pdf

Examples of this kind of water management in Orange County will illustrate the kinds of programs that can be used throughout the SCAG region.

MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE

January 12, 2006

TO: *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

FROM: *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, 213.236.1895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

SUBJECT: *Downey's Comprehensive Strategy for Managing Stormwater Runoff*

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Consider for future policy action.

BACKGROUND:

Downey has developed a comprehensive strategy for minimizing urban runoff rather than confronting the eventual challenges and costs of treating runoff once it has entered its storm drain system. This strategy supports project designs and operating systems that direct flows into vegetated medians and swales rather than into storm drains. The intended result is to expose stormwater flows to the natural treatment values of vegetation that remove certain pollutants and to encourage infiltration of these redirected flows by increasing pervious surfaces in new city projects.

This strategy is being implemented in the following local settings: large commercial sites (shopping mall and supermarket), small commercial sites (fast food and large strip mall), parking lots (recreational, high school and MTA parking lots), multi-family residential, single family residential, street construction and a retail gas outlet.

The City operates this strategy in conjunction with the Regional Board's rules on runoff limitations defined in the Standard Urban Stormwater Management Plan (SUSMP). Comments about the operating characteristics of the SUSMP policy will be addressed in Mr. Greene's presentation.